

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 177348
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND MR. BARNEBEY:LEE
APPROVED BY ARA AMBASSADOR VAKY
ARA MR. BUSHNELL
S/S-0: RCASTRODALE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 177348

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM VAKY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN ELECTION FRAUD

1. IN VIEW YOUR DESCRIPTION OF SERIOUS DETERIORATION
IN ELECTION PROCESSES, INCLUDING LIKELIHOOD OF FRAUDULENT
PRESIDENTIAL VOTE COUNT, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE CON-
SEQUENCES OF CURRENT COURSE BE UNDERSTOOD BY THE BO-
LIVIAN. WE WOULD LIKE TO PRESS TO REVERSE ANY INTENTION
OF "STEALING" THE ELECTION AND FIND A WAY TO CORRECT

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THE HANDLING OF THE VOTE COUNTING. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED
CONFIDENTIALLY CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE AT HIGHEST
LEVELS YOU DEEM IT USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE TO DO SO.

2. MESSAGE IS THAT US GOVERNMENT IS VERY SERIOUSLY
CONCERNED OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL
VOTE COUNT WILL NOT BE AN HONEST ONE AND WILL NOT
REFLECT A TRUE ELECTION. SUCH FRAUD WILL DEFINITELY BE
PERCEIVED IN THE US AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS BACKSLIDING

ON PLEDGED RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND AS A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES, WHICH WOULD UNDER OUR POLICY REQUIRE AN ADJUSTMENT IN OUR ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIP. UNLESS CORRECTED, SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION ON PART OF

GOB WILL CLEARLY HAVE AN EFFECT ON ALL OUR RELATIONS, AND WILL FORCE US TO REVIEW THE WHOLE GAMUT OF THEM. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TIME IN OUR RELATIONSHIP; AND WE CAN EITHER GO FORWARD OR BACKWARD. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CLOSER COOPERATION BUT THIS WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE IN THE FACE OF A FRAUDULENT ELECTORAL PROCESS. YOU SHOULD NOTE ALSO THAT INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE ELECTORAL RESULTS WILL BE DIMINISHED IF THE PRESENT COURSE CONTINUES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CORRUPTION, ALLEGATIONS, ELECTIONS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE177348
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LEE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840172-2811
Format: TEL
From: STATE ARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780762/aaaacaod.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: da3bda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2015900
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOLIVIAN ELECTION FRAUD
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL
To: LA PAZ
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/da3bda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014